

Nov 17<sup>th</sup> 1840. Monday eve'g.

Dear Anne,

The battle has begun, & we are fairly in for it. But let me go back and "begin at the beginning", or I shall omit something. I carried my letter up to Sally's, & found them just moved into their new house. I much preferred the new one to the old. Came home and went to starching muslin with all vigour having a great stock on hand, some of my own & more of my neighbours - being the things which Caroline left me to carry to N. B. Just as dark, up to my ears in starch, Sarah came with the news that an old gentle man & lady had been put out of the stage. I ran into the drawing room & there found two people whom I naturally enough concluded were man & wife. After tea Maria took me aside to consult about their sleeping. "Sleeping," repeated I, "why in the back chamber to be sure". "But," said M in a despairing tone, "he is Dea Farwell & she is Mrs Sessions!" The only remedy I could propose for this, was to send for a parson at once. But we finally concluded, with Henry's advice & consent - to put he into the back-chamber & she into the dressing room. Garrison called a few moments, having walked over with the Southwicks, but he had nothing to offer - Henry is as well as could be expected. I will write to-morrow & let you know how the battle rages.



Tuesday 11 o'clock A.M. In spite of fatigue I must  
write to-night or not - We got on very well with  
our visitors. The first word Henry said when I  
got out of bed this morning was, "Whoso receiveth  
one of these little ones," &c - I had every thing in  
good order & all went well at home. I got  
to the meeting about 1/2 past 10, and found a  
large meeting collected together, sitting it is to  
be hoped in a prayerful state. Soon Edmund rose  
and solemnly read the call. Sylvanus Brown  
protested against an organization, & there was  
a great deal of desultory conversation about  
that. The meeting was exceedingly mixed -  
the fashionables & the "come outers" - all  
jumbled up together. Waldo Emerson & wife  
Alcott - J. Parker. & Ripley &c - There were  
all the M. A. trying to make capital - Colver  
Phelps. L. Lee - We had a very good dinner,  
roast turkey &c - Dr. Harnsworth, Hawley, <sup>Mrs</sup> Sessions  
& M. H. Whiting - Dr. H said that the story was  
that the Mass it was either to be made over to  
the Emancipator, or to be turned into a  
religious paper. That it lost 1000 subscribers in  
a fortnight. 1500 in all - In the afternoon  
the discussion went on, & they fairly got into  
the Sunday meeting business - Parker spoke  
against the Sabbath - but liked the expediency  
of the thing - I am writing with all talking, so I  
don't know a word I write hardly. Garrison, Colver  
& Phelps fought about terms - In the evening  
Dr Osgood in a long set speech defended the



Sabbath. very dull & stupid - I think more  
could be said for than the Sabbath than he said.  
Garrison answered him very well, mounted on  
his gospel horse. When that little impudent  
Charles Harvey shouted forth. The outshirts  
of the meeting clopped him & he instantly  
insulted them. When we adjourned after  
meeting Phelps stepped up to Maria (he was  
passing her though) & shook hands with  
her, she shaking that way in the eyes of  
strangers, <sup>she</sup> testified, or rather said, why caint  
you come back to us. The hot coal matter  
came ~~back~~ up at once. He said every  
your Book is untrue. people gathered  
round, she told him he had betrayed the  
cause. You broke the compact says he  
What compact have I ever made  
said she. I could break none with you for,  
I have made none, what compact? & he had  
nothing to say. I have betrayed the cause no more  
than you have. For words to that effect, was his next,  
I refer you to your own confessions as made  
in Philadelphia, that you had used the cause for  
ulterior measures, I refer you to Mr Philbrick  
what confessions, said she, I demand what they  
were. He refused to give them & denied every word  
he said. Henry fell upon him then & told him he  
was no gentleman. Harvey can tell you more or  
rather, all about it. Edmund was much pleased.  
Today Phelps spoke more than 3 hrs - so very  
different it was from Dr. Osgoods twaddle. The only  
point on which he was not clear, was the change  
of the day - he bungled about that - Maria has  
reported his speech very faithfully - Abbott spoke  
just as right in his own peculiar style - In the  
eve Cranwell a y<sup>th</sup> dryer spoke & another motto -  
them Colver - oh it was hard to hear - Then  
Whiting & he fired his democracy which made  
a great sensation - They were ready to fly at him  
you would have laughed to see how the most ultra  
anti slavery doctrines were very kindly recd



Henry Webb has been here off & on, dinner to  
sister Sessions, our guest signified herself to day  
while Phelps was looking up a text, she quietly began  
with "if a thing is revealed to - let the first hold his  
peace" so used was the con to oddities that  
there was not even a rustle when she began  
the transcendentalists were in exiles at her lights  
Phelps behaved very well - said not a word but  
took up his argument & went on. it made not  
the least disturbance -

Q

Miss Anne Warren Weston

Weymouth.

Mass -

Ms A.9.2.14.59

I recd your bundle by Mr Pierce. I have got your  
ticket safe & will see about getting you in  
when the con is off my mind. I will send  
this letter by mail to day, but I have no  
idea whether it reads English or not -  
Mrs A may set her heart at rest about  
the Dr, he only looks into the meeting, we are  
to be none the wiser for his visit. though it  
is rumoured that he is going to give good  
advice to the meeting by & by - you will be  
sorry I think that you were not here is has  
been very interesting -